



Ambassador Darryl Norman Johnson

Darryl N. Johnson had a long and distinguished career as a Foreign Service Officer, culminating in his service as U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, 2001-2004. He retired from the Foreign Service in early 2005 and shortly thereafter began teaching part-time at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies at his alma mater, the University of Washington in Seattle. He also served as acting Chief of Mission (Charge D’Affairs) at the US Embassy in the Philippines for several weeks in 2005.

Before joining the Foreign Service in 1965, Ambassador Johnson served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand. His first Foreign Service assignment was to the U.S. Consulate General in Mumbai, India, after which he undertook Chinese language training, followed by assignment to the Consulate General in Hong Kong (1969-73). His other overseas postings have included Moscow (1974-77), Beijing (1984-87) and Warsaw (1988-91). He served as the first U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania (1991-94), and later in Taipei as the Director of the American Institute in Taiwan (1996-99). In Washington he held a variety of positions, including Yugoslav Desk Officer (1977-79), PRC Desk Officer (1979-81), Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs (1982-84), Deputy Coordinator for Assistance to the countries of the former Soviet Union (1994-96), Deputy Director of the Bosnian Task Force (1996), Political Adviser to the Chief of Naval Operations (1999-2000) and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, responsible for China and Mongolia.

Ambassador Johnson received his BA (cum laude) from the University of Washington and also attended the University of Puget Sound, the University of Minnesota and Princeton University. He was selected for the academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa and for the honor societies for military science, music and literature. He speaks Thai, Chinese (Mandarin), Russian, Polish, and some Lithuanian. He is married to the former Kathleen Dessa Forance, and has one daughter, Darawan (born in Thailand), twin sons, Loren and Gregory (born in India), and four grandchildren. His home is in Seattle, Washington.